

## OREGON BERRIES

Total utilized production of all berry crops in Oregon during 2002 totaled 171.1 million pounds. This is a slight increase from 2001 but a one percent decrease from 2000. Total utilized value of production in 2002 was \$83.8 million, a 22 percent increase from 2001 and a slight decrease from 2000. All caneberry production totaled 66.6 million pounds, up one percent from the previous year but down five percent from 2000. Total production value for all caneberry crops increased almost 10 percent from 2001 to \$32.9 million. Acreage harvested for caneberry crops decreased by two percent to 11,560 acres.

Production of all blackberries in Oregon totaled 49.5 million pounds in 2002, up nearly 18 percent from the previous year and up 10 percent from 2000. Value of production for all blackberries was \$21.9 million, an increase of 25 percent from 2001. All blackberry harvested acreage was 6,900 acres, up seven percent from the previous year.

Cranberries became the largest volume berry crop in Oregon for 2002 with a record production of 43.2 million pounds, and increase of almost 22 percent from 2001. The value of this production was \$14.2 million, up nearly 78 percent from last year. Harvested acreage of cranberries increased by eight percent to a record 2,600 acres.

Strawberries ranked second in production with 33.8 million pounds, the lowest level of production since

1951 and down 16 percent from last year. Strawberry production in Oregon peaked in 1988 with 101.4 million pounds. The crop's total value, at \$16.6 million, increased nearly 10 percent from 2001, due to an increase in price to 49.2¢ per pound. Harvested acreage of strawberries continued its decline to 3,000 acres.

Marion blackberries were the third largest berry crop in Oregon in 2002 with a production of 32.4 million pounds, up 18 percent from last year. Value of production, at \$13.7 million, was up 11 percent from last year but down 13 percent from 2001. Harvested acreage increased by 200 acres from last year to 4,600 acres.

Blueberries became the fourth largest berry crop in Oregon with a total production of 27.5 million pounds, down five percent from last year. Value of production for blueberries increased, however, by 27 percent to \$20.1 million, thanks to an increase in price to 73.0¢ per pound. Harvested acreage for blueberries held steady at 2,800 acres.

Red raspberries remained the fifth largest berry crop in Oregon with production of 10.3 million pounds, down 35 percent from 2001. This is the lowest level since 1979. The value of the crop was \$7.5 million, down eight percent from the previous year. Harvested acreage for red raspberries, at 2,300 acres, decreased by 400 acres from the previous year and was the lowest acreage since 1981.

**Value of production, percent of total, Oregon, 2002**

